

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1150

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, USSAEC, SA, US

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMISSION: AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE

1. TAHER OBAID HAS GIVEN EMB LIAISON OFFICER SIGNED REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, PLUS REVISED POSITION DESCRIPTIONS. SINCE EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE ORIGINAL DRAFT MEMORANDUM, AND OBAID CANNOT LOCATE IT EITHER, WE NOT ABLE TELEGRAM REVISIONS. INSTEAD, WE ARE POUCHING COMPLETE PACKAGE IMMEDIATELY DIRECTLY TO DR. WEST.

2. IN MEANTIME, BEST DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES IS CONTAINED IN OBAID'S COVERING LETTER TO WEST, EDITED VERSION OF WHICH FOLLOWS:
(AFTER FIRST PARAGRAPH) "AS MENTIONED IN MY CABLE OF APRIL 26, THESE MAINLY ARE REVISIONS OF DOCUMENTS PREPARED EARLIER. FURTHER DISCUSSION OF OUR NEEDS AND OF THE BEST WAY TO UTILIZE SPECIALISTS ASSIGNED IN RESPONSE TO THOSE NEEDS, INCLUDING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTER, MADE IT APPARENT THAT SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN ORIGINAL DRAFTS WERE CALLED FOR AND COULD BEST BE MADE BEFORE RECRUITMENT WAS STARTED. (PARA) FIRST CHANGE IS THAT A NUMBER OF FUNCTIONAL AREAS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST OF THOSE FOR WHICH ASSISTANCE IS REQUESTED. THESE INCLUDE AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES, AS WELL AS STATISTICS, PROGRAM PLANNING, AND
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SEVERAL SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS. (PARA) SECOND

CHANGE PROVIDES FOR AN OVERALL U.S. TEAM LEADER
TO BE HOUSED IN MINISTRY AND REPORT TO THE MINISTER.
(PARA) THIRD CHANGE RELATED TO ROLE DEFINITION.

MOST SIGNIFICANT IS ADDITION OF LANGUAGE EMPHASISING
THE DYNAMIC, ACHIEVEMENT-ORIENTED CHARACTER OF
THE SPECIALISTS'S DUTIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR
LAND AND WATER RESOURCES AND OF OUR AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTION. (PARA) ORIGINAL POSITION DESCRIPTIONS
HAVE BEEN REVISED AND NEW ONES HAVE BEEN
PREPARED TO REFLECT THESE CHANGES. (PARA) DESCRIPTIONS
FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PREPARED.
WE FEEL THEY CAN BEST BE DEVELOPED AFTER TEAM LEADER
AND SENIOR SPECIALIST ARE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSION OF
REQUIREMENTS:
WATER RESOURCE SPECIALIST
PROJECT DESIGN SPECIALIST
PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SPECIALIST
REGIONAL LAND INVESTIGATIONS & PLANNING SPECIALIST
REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATION AND PLANNING
SPECIALIST"

(CONCLUDING PARA)

3. BOWDEN TELEX SUMMARIZING WEST TO OBAID LETTER
CAME SLIGHTLY GARBLED. WHILE ESSENCE OF TELEX
CLEAR, PROBABLY SHOULD BE RETRANSMITTED FOR THE
RECORD. OBAID HOPES THAT LETTER WILL CONTAIN
CONSIDERABLY MORE BIO DATA ON IRRIGATION ENGINEER
NOMINEE THAN CONTAINED TELEX.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT REVISIONS OF
MEMORANDUM AND POSITION DESCRIPTIONS SHOULD CAUSE
NO DIFFICULTY. ONLY POSSIBLE PROBLEM IS PROVISION
THAT TEAM LEADER WORK DIRECTLY, IN SUBSTANTIVE
MATTERS, UNDER SUPERVISION OF MINAGR. EMBASSY
URGES THAT THIS PROVISION BE ACCEPTED AS BEST
WORKING ARRANGEMENT. RELATIONSHIP OF TEAM LEADER
WITH THE COMMISSION AND WITH THE AGRICULTURAL
MONITOR CAN BE ELABORATED IN THE FUTURE WITHOUT
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DELAYING PROGRESS ON THIS PROJECT.

5. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE "IMPLEMENTATION MEMORANDUM,"
THE EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED THIS PROJECT, TO THE EXTENT
THAT IT CURRENTLY IS DEFINED, AND CONCURS THAT
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT SHOULD PROCEED.

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